DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 073 221 UD 013 363

AUTHOR	Seraile, Elmore J.; And Others
TITLE	Characteristics of the Population by Ethnic Origin, November 1969. Population Characteristics: Current Population Reports, Series P-20, Number 221, April 30, 1971.
INSTITUTION	Bureau of the Census (DOC), Suitland, Md. Population Div.
PUB DATE	30 Apr 71
NOTE	28p.
AVAILABLE FROM	Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402 ($0.40)
EDRS PRICE	MF-$0.65 HC-$3.29
DESCRIPTORS	Age Differences; Bilingualism; *Census Figures; *Educational Background; *Employment Patterns; Ethnic Distribution; Ethnic Groups; *Ethnic Origins; Family Income; Immigrants; Literacy; National Surveys; Population Trends; *Second Languages; Sex Differences

ABSTRACT

This report is based on a sample survey conducted as a supplement to the November 1969 Current Population Survey. An earlier report, based on the same survey, focused on persons of specific types of Spanish origin. The present report shows similar characteristics--mother tongue, language usually spoken in the home, educational attainment, employment status, occupation group, and income--for persons who identified themselves as of English, German, Irish, Italian, Polish, Russian, and Spanish origin. Characteristics are also shown for "all others" combined; this group consists largely of persons of other European origin (some of whom were identified as of more than one origin), Negroes, American Indians, and persons of Asian origin. The data in this report and in the report on persons of Spanish origin are the first that have been presented on the basis of questions that ask for self-identification of the person's origin or descent. Previously ethnic origin had to be inferred from information on place of birth, country of origin, mother tongue, surname, etc. The data shown in this report were derived from detailed tabulations of the replies to the questions on origin or descent, on birthplace, language, and literacy asked in the November 1969 Current Population Survey. (Author/JM)

A UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PUBLICATION

CURRENT POPULATION REPORTS

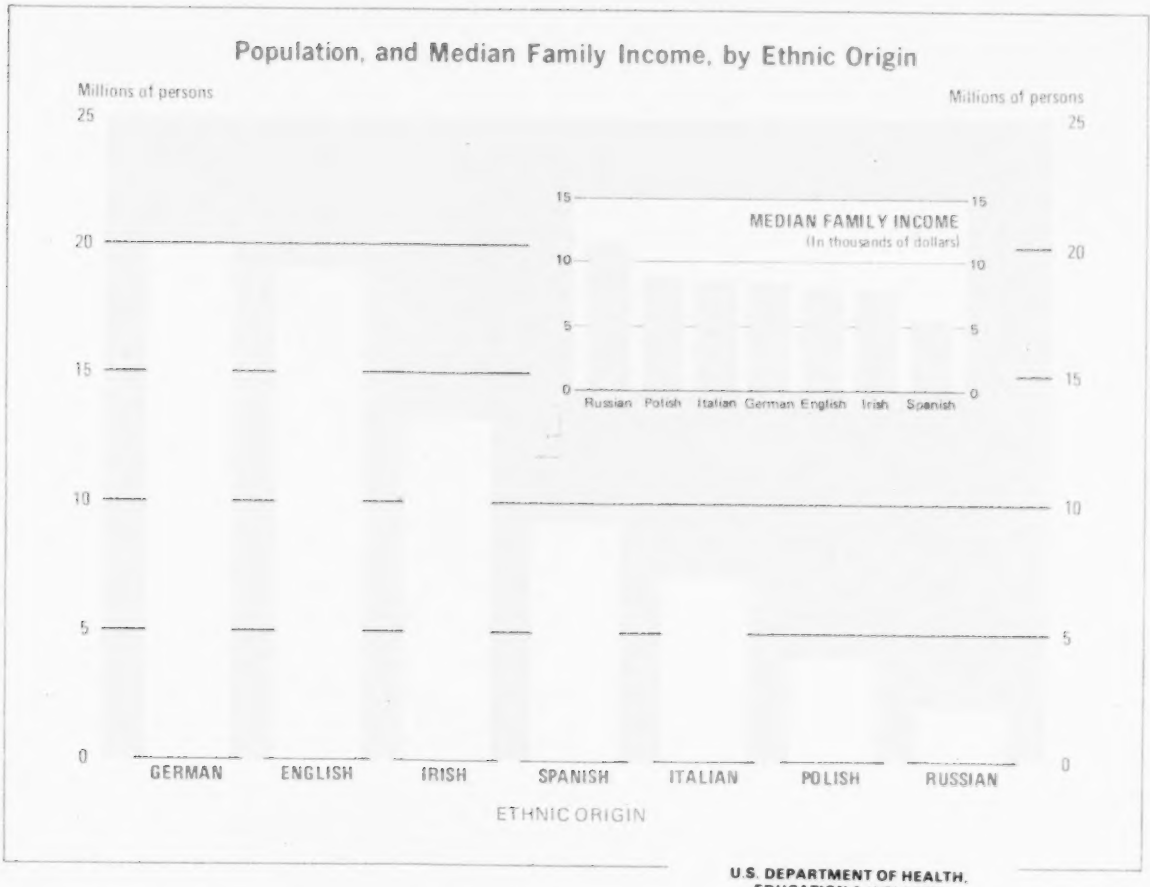
Population Characteristics

Series P-20, No. 221
April 30, 1971

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE / Bureau of the Census

ED 073221

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE POPULATION BY ETHNIC ORIGIN
NOVEMBER 1969



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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This report was prepared by Elmore J. Seraile, Marcia N. Smith, and Virginia H. Williams, under the direction of Tobia Bressler, Chief, Ethnic Origins Statistics Branch, Population Division. General direction was provided by Paul C. Glick, Assistant Chief (Demographic and Social Statistics Programs), Population Division.

SUGGESTED CITATION

U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Report, Series P-20, No. 221, "Characteristics of the Population by Ethnic Origin: November 1969," U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., 1971.

For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, 40 cents. Current Population Reports issued in Series P–20, P–23, P–25, P–26, P–27, P–28 (summaries only), P–60, and P–65 are sold as a single consolidated subscription at $14.00 per year, $3.50 additional for foreign mailing.

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Characteristics of the Population by Ethnic Origin: November 1969

Introduction

This report is based on a sample survey conducted as a supplement to the November 1969 Current Population Survey. An earlier report, based on the same survey, focused on persons of specific types of Spanish origin. (See "Persons of Spanish Origin in the United States: November 1969," Series P-20, No. 213.) The present report shows similar characteristics (mother tongue, language usually spoken in the home, educational attainment, employment status, occupation group, and income) for persons who identified themselves as of English, German, Irish, Italian, Polish, Russian, and Spanish origin. Characteristics are also shown for "all others" combined; this group consists largely of persons of other European origin (some of whom were identified as of more than one origin), Negroes, American Indians, and persons of Asian origin.

The data in this report and in the report on persons of Spanish origin are the first that have been presented on the basis of questions that ask for self-identification of the person's origin or descent. Previously ethnic origin had to be inferred from information on place of birth, country of origin, mother tongue, surname, etc.

The following are some of the highlights of this survey:

About 75 million of the approximately 200 million persons in the United States reported that they were of one of the seven specific origin categories covered in this report. Approximately 20.0 million persons reported German origin; 19.1 million, English; 13.3 million, Irish; 9.2 million, Spanish; 7.2 million, Italian; 4.0 million, Polish; and 2.2 million, Russian.

About 11 million persons living in the United States at the time of the survey were foreign born. Two-thirds of them reported English as the language usually spoken in their homes. They were 23 years older, on the average, than the native population.

Persons of Spanish origin were less likely than were persons of other specific origin groups to report English as their mother tongue, or as their current language or to be able to read and write English. They were also less likely to hold high-paying jobs. They were more likely to be young and to marry persons of the same origin.

Among persons of Russian origin, high percentages had some college education, were employed in high-paying occupations, and had high family incomes. They were, as a group, older than persons of other origin categories.

Notes

The data shown in this report were derived from detailed tabulations of the replies to the questions on origin or descent, on birthplace, language, and literacy asked in the November 1969 Current Population Survey. See page 28 for the wording of the questions.

The answers to the questions on ethnic origin produce results somewhat different from results based on inferred ethnic identification using such characteristics as place of birth, country of origin, language spoken in the home, or surname. Some respondents having a diverse ethnic background or having several generations of residence in the United States may have reported the ethnic association they felt most strongly and may not have had precise alternatives from which to choose.

The category "native" includes persons born in the United States, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, outlying areas of the United States, and persons for whom country of birth was not reported. As the data were tabulated for this report, "native" excludes the small number of persons born abroad of American parents.

"Mother tongue" is the language reported as spoken in the person's home when he was a child. "Current language" is the language reported as the one usually spoken in the home at the time of the survey.

The numbers in this report are in thousands. The figures may differ slightly from table to table since individual numbers were rounded to the nearest thousand without being adjusted to group totals. Similarly, individual percentages were rounded and parts may not always add to 100 percent.

I TYPE OF ORIGIN

Among the seven specific origin groups identified in the survey, the most numerous were the English and German. Each of these two groups accounted for approximately one-tenth of the total population. Groups of intermediate frequency included the Irish, Spanish, and Italian.

Persons of Spanish origin were youngest with a median age of about 20 years, whereas persons of Russian origin were oldest with a median age of 46 years.

Table 1. Origin of the Population, by Age and Sex

Origin	Total population		Percent distribution by age						Median age (years)
	Number (thous.)	Percent	Total	Under 14	14 to 24	25 to 44	45 to 64	65 and over	
Total.....	198,214	100.0	100.0	27.8	18.6	23.5	20.7	9.5	28.0
English.....	19,060	9.6	100.0	21.0	16.1	24.2	24.9	13.9	35.7
German.....	19,961	10.1	100.0	20.4	15.3	27.3	23.6	13.4	35.5
Irish.....	13,282	6.7	100.0	19.6	15.4	25.7	26.3	13.0	36.7
Italian.....	7,239	3.7	100.0	19.8	15.5	26.4	27.2	11.0	36.1
Polish.....	4,021	2.0	100.0	17.4	13.7	25.5	31.9	11.5	39.8
Russian.....	2,152	1.1	100.0	12.8	13.6	22.1	33.6	17.9	45.8
Spanish.....	9,230	4.7	100.0	37.5	21.2	25.3	12.8	3.3	19.9
Other[1].....	105,633	53.3	100.0	33.3	20.0	21.4	17.8	7.5	23.1
Not reported.....	17,635	8.9	100.0	19.0	20.3	26.8	23.0	10.8	32.9
Male.....	95,356	100.0	100.0	29.4	18.3	23.4	20.5	8.4	26.9
English.....	9,014	9.5	100.0	23.1	16.0	24.6	24.8	11.5	33.8
German.....	9,978	10.5	100.0	21.1	14.6	27.6	24.6	12.1	35.3
Irish.....	6,187	6.5	100.0	20.8	14.9	26.2	26.7	11.4	35.9
Italian.....	3,539	3.7	100.0	20.7	14.9	27.3	26.1	10.9	35.5
Polish.....	1,972	2.1	100.0	18.7	13.4	26.1	31.9	9.9	38.7
Russian.....	1,064	1.1	100.0	12.9	14.8	22.3	32.5	17.9	45.2
Spanish.....	4,499	4.7	100.0	39.7	20.1	23.9	13.0	3.3	19.2
Other.....	50,392	52.8	100.0	35.5	19.9	20.6	17.3	6.7	21.8
Not reported.....	8,711	9.1	100.0	19.3	20.2	28.6	22.8	9.2	32.4
Female.....	102,858	100.0	100.0	26.3	18.8	23.6	20.9	10.5	29.2
English.....	10,046	9.8	100.0	19.1	16.1	23.8	25.0	16.0	37.4
German.....	9,983	9.7	100.0	19.8	16.0	26.9	22.5	14.8	35.6
Irish.....	7,095	6.9	100.0	18.5	15.8	25.2	25.9	14.5	37.4
Italian.....	3,700	3.6	100.0	19.0	16.1	25.5	28.3	11.2	36.7
Polish.....	2,049	2.0	100.0	16.2	14.0	24.9	31.9	13.0	40.9
Russian.....	1,088	1.1	100.0	13.2	12.3	22.0	34.7	17.8	46.5
Spanish.....	4,732	4.6	100.0	35.4	22.2	26.6	12.6	3.1	21.0
Other.....	55,242	53.7	100.0	31.3	20.2	22.0	18.3	8.2	24.2
Not reported.....	8,924	8.7	100.0	18.8	20.5	25.1	23.3	12.3	33.6

[1]Includes all origin groups not shown separately above, of whom about 20 million were Negroes. See page 28, item 38.

Among origin groups, the Russians had the lowest proportion (13 percent) of persons under 14 years of age and the highest proportion (18 percent) of persons 65 years and over. The Spanish origin group had the reverse relationship with 37 percent of its population under 14 and only about 3 percent 65 years old and over. Only about one in six Spanish origin persons was 45 years old and over, whereas approximately one-half the persons of Russian origin were in this category. The Spanish origin group had the smallest proportion of persons who were 14 through 64 years old, 59 percent.

Table 2. Percent of the Population at Selected Age Levels, by Origin

Origin	Total (thousands)	Percent at selected age levels			
		Under 14	Under 25	45 and over	65 and over
Total	198,214	27.8	46.4	30.2	9.5
English	19,060	21.0	37.0	38.8	13.9
German	19,961	20.4	35.7	37.0	13.4
Irish	13,282	19.6	35.0	39.3	13.0
Italian	7,239	19.8	35.3	38.3	11.0
Polish	4,021	17.4	31.1	43.4	11.5
Russian	2,152	12.8	26.4	51.4	17.9
Spanish	9,230	37.5	58.7	16.1	3.3
Other	105,633	33.3	53.3	25.3	7.5
Not reported	17,635	19.0	39.4	33.8	10.8

Persons of Spanish origin reported English as their mother tongue and as their current language less frequently than did persons of other origin groups identified. About 29 percent of the persons of Spanish origin reported English as their mother tongue and about 50 percent reported it as their current language. A larger proportion of persons of German origin reported English mother tongue than any other group listed besides those of English and Irish origin.

Table 3. Origin of the Population, by English Mother Tongue and Current Language

(Numbers in thousands)

Origin	Total persons	Reporting English mother tongue		Reporting English current language	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	198,214	161,787	81.6	186,527	94.1
English	19,060	18,761	98.4	18,941	99.4
German	19,961	15,065	75.5	19,599	98.2
Irish	13,282	13,016	98.0	13,221	99.5
Italian	7,239	3,088	42.7	6,580	90.9
Polish	4,021	1,588	39.5	3,722	92.6
Russian	2,152	996	46.3	2,040	94.8
Spanish	9,230	2,659	28.8	4,643	50.3
Other	105,633	92,518	87.6	103,133	97.6
Not reported	17,635	14,098	79.9	14,648	83.1

In about three out of every four of the husband-wife households with a head of Spanish origin, the wife of the head was also of Spanish origin. At the other end of the scale, only about one-third of the heads of German or Irish origin were married to women whose origin was the same as theirs.

Table 4. Origin of Head of Household by Origin of Wife, for Husband-Wife Households

Origin of head	Husband-wife households (thous.)	Percent distribution								
		Total	Origin of wife							
			English	German	Irish	Italian	Polish	Russian	Spanish	Other
Head, 16 years and over.....	43,622	100.0	11.4	11.8	8.0	4.2	2.5	1.4	3.7	57.0
English.....	4,958	100.0	45.3	10.2	7.3	1.5	0.7	0.3	0.8	33.9
German.....	5,857	100.0	10.0	34.1	8.5	2.0	2.1	0.7	0.8	41.8
Irish.....	3,422	100.0	10.3	12.7	31.8	3.2	1.5	0.2	0.9	39.5
Italian.....	1,946	100.0	3.8	5.9	6.9	52.7	3.0	0.6	1.0	26.2
Polish.....	1,116	100.0	4.5	7.5	4.6	5.6	40.9	6.0	0.8	30.2
Russian.....	657	100.0	3.7	3.5	1.2	1.4	9.6	46.6	1.1	32.9
Spanish.....	1,591	100.0	2.3	2.8	2.2	1.3	0.4	0.3	76.1	14.7
Other.....	24,076	100.0	6.7	8.1	5.5	1.8	1.2	0.7	1.0	75.1

There were 60.6 million persons under 18 years of age who were related to the household head and were living in households in which both the head and wife were present. (About 95 percent of these were children living with both parents.) Where either the head or wife (or both) was of Spanish origin, two-thirds of the children were in households where both the head and the wife were of Spanish origin. This was twice as large as the corresponding proportion for any other specific origin group identified in this survey.

Table 5. Number of Related Persons Under 18 Years of Age in Husband-Wife Households, by Ethnic Origin of Head and Wife

(Numbers in thousands)

Origin of head	Total related persons under 18	Origin of wife								
		English	German	Irish	Italian	Polish	Russian	Spanish	Other	Not reported
Total.....	60,590	5,925	7,128	4,740	2,303	1,260	490	3,506	30,347	4,890
English.....	5,744	2,571	612	409	75	46	17	60	1,710	244
German.....	7,698	683	2,627	668	181	170	36	69	2,826	436
Irish.....	4,679	369	587	1,476	165	88	9	62	1,661	261
Italian.....	2,527	133	162	216	1,126	59	16	26	702	85
Polish.....	1,419	51	124	100	103	418	70	13	481	59
Russian.....	546	24	10	4	47	60	208	14	184	25
Spanish.....	3,294	40	54	51	19	7	4	2,732	361	26
Other.....	27,569	1,497	2,292	1,293	498	356	100	380	20,178	977
Not reported...	7,116	558	659	522	119	56	29	151	2,245	2,776

II LANGUAGE AND PLACE OF BIRTH

As expected, the native population was considerably younger than the foreign-born population--on the average, 23 years younger. About 85 percent of the native population reported English mother tongue; the median age of these persons was relatively young, 23 years. Three percent of the native population reported Spanish mother tongue, and their median age was also 23 years. Another 3 percent of the native population reported German mother tongue, but their median age was much higher, 52 years.

Among the foreign born, 26 percent reported English and 17 percent reported Spanish mother tongue. Again, these two groups were among the youngest.

Table 6. Mother Tongue and Nativity, by Age

Mother tongue and nativity	Total population		Percent distribution by age						Median age (years)
	Number (thous.)	Percent	Total	Under 14	14 to 24	25 to 44	45 to 64	65 and over	
Native.....	187,333	100.0	100.0	28.8	19.1	23.4	20.4	8.3	26.8
English.....	158,954	84.9	100.0	32.6	20.1	22.0	17.8	7.5	23.5
French.....	1,801	1.0	100.0	4.1	11.9	36.9	33.3	13.8	43.4
German.....	4,809	2.6	100.0	1.0	6.6	29.6	36.1	26.7	52.1
Italian.....	3,147	1.7	100.0	3.2	9.7	37.1	44.3	5.8	45.0
Polish.....	1,982	1.1	100.0	0.8	9.1	35.1	48.4	6.7	47.1
Spanish.....	4,878	2.6	100.0	29.5	25.5	29.2	13.5	2.2	22.7
Yiddish.....	1,142	0.6	100.0	0.4	7.0	29.4	50.6	12.7	50.2
Other.....	7,111	3.8	100.0	4.8	10.5	32.5	39.3	12.8	46.1
Not reported.....	3,506	1.9	100.0	5.1	20.5	22.0	35.0	17.4	46.3
Foreign born....	10,882	100.0	100.0	9.6	10.4	24.4	25.4	30.2	49.4
English.....	2,833	26.0	100.0	25.1	12.0	19.9	22.8	20.3	38.1
French.....	378	3.5	100.0	7.5	11.9	33.0	28.7	19.1	43.6
German.....	1,025	9.4	100.0	0.4	6.3	30.0	29.0	34.4	54.2
Italian.....	1,218	11.2	100.0	2.0	6.9	17.8	25.0	48.2	63.6
Polish.....	399	3.7	100.0	1.7	3.8	9.3	25.7	59.5	65+
Spanish.....	1,822	16.7	100.0	10.5	19.9	39.2	21.8	8.6	35.1
Yiddish.....	478	4.4	100.0	0.2	1.5	4.6	30.7	63.1	65+
Other.....	2,655	24.4	100.0	2.4	7.9	24.7	27.9	37.2	55.8
Not reported.....	74	0.7	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)

B Base less than 75,000.

Some 94 percent of the population reported English as the language usually spoken in their home. Within each of the origin groups identified, the great majority reported English, except for persons of Spanish origin, only about one-half of whom reported English as their current language.

Table 7. Current Language of the Population, by Origin

(Numbers in thousands)

Origin	Total	Current language					
		Same as language indicated by origin		English		All other[1]	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total.....	198,214	(NA)	(NA)	186,527	94.1	(NA)	(NA)
English.....	19,060	18,941	99.4	18,941	99.4	117	0.6
German.....	19,961	251	1.3	19,599	98.2	110	0.6
Irish.....	13,282	[2]13,221	99.5	13,221	99.5	59	0.4
Italian.....	7,239	631	8.7	6,580	90.9	29	0.4
Polish.....	4,021	220	5.5	3,722	92.6	80	2.0
Russian.....	2,152	[3]48	2.2	2,040	94.8	64	3.0
Spanish.....	9,230	4,498	48.7	4,643	50.3	87	0.9
Other.....	105,633	(NA)	(NA)	103,133	97.6	(NA)	(NA)
Not reported.....	17,635	(NA)	(NA)	14,648	83.1	(NA)	(NA)

NA Not available.
[1]Includes "Not reported."
[2]English.
[3]Yiddish; separate data on Russian current language are not available.

About 96 percent of the native and 67 percent of the foreign-born population reported English as their current language. Native persons of French mother tongue reported English as their current language to a somewhat lesser degree than did the general population. Among native persons reporting Spanish mother tongue, the deviation from the average was quite marked, as only about 36 percent reported English as their current language.

The proportion of persons who reported English as their current language was particularly high for foreign-born persons of German and Yiddish (and, of course, English) mother tongue. Only about one in every five persons of Spanish mother tongue reported English as their current language.

Table 8. Persons Reporting English as Current Language, by Nativity and Mother Tongue

(Numbers in thousands)

Mother tongue	Total persons	Native			Foreign born		
		Total	Current language English		Total	Current language English	
			Number	Percent		Number	Percent
Total.....	198,214	187,333	179,192	95.7	10,882	7,335	67.4
English.....	161,787	158,954	158,386	99.6	2,833	2,813	99.3
French.....	2,179	1,801	1,547	85.9	378	218	57.7
German.....	5,835	4,809	4,653	96.8	1,025	866	84.5
Italian.....	4,364	3,147	2,982	94.8	1,218	725	59.5
Polish.....	2,382	1,982	1,916	96.7	399	236	59.2
Spanish.....	6,700	4,878	1,774	36.4	1,822	341	18.7
Yiddish.....	1,620	1,142	1,122	98.2	478	372	77.8
Other.....	9,767	7,111	6,506	91.5	2,655	1,727	65.1
Not reported.....	3,581	3,506	304	8.7	74	37	50.0

Approximately 11 million persons were foreign born. Germany, Italy, Mexico, and the United Kingdom were the major contributing countries.

Males originating from most countries were of roughly the same number and average age as their female compatriots, but there was a range of differences in age from one country to the other.

Table 9. Country of Birth of the Foreign-Born Population, by Age and Sex

(Numbers in thousands)

Age and sex	Total	Country of birth										
		Austria	Cuba	Germany	Ireland	Italy	Mexico	Poland	Russia	Sweden	United Kingdom	Other
Total.....	10,882	236	504	1,004	277	1,353	938	550	412	166	1,006	4,434
Median age....years..	49.4	70.2	32.1	40.8	60.6	59.7	38.0	66.7	69.7	70.1	49.6	45.0
Male.....	5,054	112	242	426	105	669	441	255	199	83	446	2,076
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 14 years.....	10.4	-	14.9	22.5	2.7	5.0	11.6	2.2	-	-	11.6	11.9
14 to 24 years.....	10.8	8.4	21.5	12.7	2.9	8.8	19.0	3.9	-	1.7	9.6	11.0
25 to 44 years.....	23.1	2.2	42.5	18.0	18.3	18.4	29.9	11.0	9.6	6.4	22.4	26.9
45 to 64 years.....	24.9	22.0	16.0	21.6	22.7	23.2	29.0	34.3	17.2	33.7	29.5	24.9
65 to 74 years.....	16.8	28.5	4.6	16.2	28.5	20.7	8.3	23.2	38.3	36.8	16.8	14.0
75 years and over....	14.1	38.9	0.5	8.9	25.2	23.8	2.2	25.6	34.9	21.4	10.2	11.4
Median age....years..	49.6	71.3	31.4	41.4	66.2	60.4	38.0	64.2	71.1	67.4	49.3	45.2
Female.....	5,827	124	263	578	173	683	496	295	214	83	560	2,358
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 14 years.....	8.9	-	11.1	13.3	3.2	7.5	11.2	1.9	-	-	8.6	10.4
14 to 24 years.....	10.0	3.2	22.8	11.6	5.8	8.3	15.9	0.3	0.5	4.8	8.4	10.8
25 to 44 years.....	25.6	6.0	39.7	32.4	25.6	16.1	35.0	8.3	4.4	4.5	25.8	29.0
45 to 64 years.....	25.8	24.9	22.2	21.7	27.6	25.7	25.6	28.8	30.8	16.6	30.7	25.6
65 to 74 years.....	17.0	36.3	3.0	13.7	22.1	21.7	7.1	34.6	39.5	26.8	14.7	14.8
75 years and over....	12.6	29.5	1.1	7.4	15.9	20.7	5.3	26.0	24.6	47.1	12.0	9.4
Median age....years..	49.3	69.4	33.2	40.5	56.5	59.0	38.1	68.0	68.7	73.9	49.7	44.9

- Represents zero or rounds to zero.

The fathers of four persons out of every five were born in the United States. Of the persons with foreign-born fathers, 14 million had fathers who were born in Germany, Italy, Mexico, Poland, and the United Kingdom. About a million persons reported that they were born abroad of fathers who were born in the United States.

Table 10. Place of Birth of the Person, by Place of Birth of Father

(Numbers in thousands)

Father's place of birth	Total	Place of birth of the person						
		United States	Puerto Rico	U.S. outlying areas	Austria	Cuba	Germany	Ireland
Total	198,214	183,030	846	118	236	504	1,004	277
United States	160,559	159,346	24	45	4	8	199	7
Puerto Rico	1,371	555	809	-	-	1	-	-
U.S. outlying areas	120	51	-	62	-	1	-	-
Austria	852	608	-	-	206	-	7	-
Cuba	547	90	-	-	-	451	-	-
Germany	2,965	2,200	-	-	3	-	713	-
Ireland	1,308	990	-	-	-	-	-	264
Italy	4,327	3,107	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mexico	2,182	1,381	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poland	2,215	1,633	3	-	1	-	23	-
Russia	1,680	1,187	-	-	7	-	9	-
Sweden	831	650	-	-	-	-	-	-
United Kingdom	2,126	1,243	-	-	-	1	6	3
Other	9,706	5,974	9	5	10	39	39	-
Not reported	7,427	4,014	1	6	5	2	9	3

Father's place of birth	Place of birth of the person--Continued							
	Italy	Mexico	Poland	Russia	Sweden	United Kingdom	Other	Not reported
Total	1,353	938	550	412	166	1,006	4,434	3,338
United States	142	111	7	-	1	104	472	89
Puerto Rico	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-
U.S. outlying areas	1	-	-	-	-	-	4	-
Austria	3	-	3	-	-	1	22	3
Cuba	-	-	2	-	-	-	4	-
Germany	7	1	9	4	-	-	27	1
Ireland	-	1	-	-	-	29	23	-
Italy	1,175	2	-	-	-	11	30	1
Mexico	1	797	-	-	-	-	3	-
Poland	-	-	505	5	-	11	34	-
Russia	-	3	12	395	-	12	55	-
Sweden	1	1	-	-	165	-	13	-
United Kingdom	-	1	-	-	-	789	82	1
Other	13	11	8	-	-	32	3,549	16
Not reported	9	9	4	8	-	16	112	3,227

- Represents zero or rounds to zero.

The distribution by place of birth of the mother born outside the United States is very similar to the distribution by place of birth of the father (shown in table 10). However, about 3 million more persons reported that their mother was born here in the United States than reported that their father was born here.

Table 11. Place of Birth of the Person, by Place of Birth of Mother

(Numbers in thousands)

Mother's place of birth	Total	Place of birth of the person						
		United States	Puerto Rico	U.S. outlying areas	Austria	Cuba	Germany	Ireland
Total	198,214	183,030	846	118	236	504	1,004	277
United States	163,339	162,303	15	33	-	8	129	7
Puerto Rico	1,393	564	820	1	-	1	-	-
U.S. outlying areas	127	47	-	72	1	1	-	-
Austria	812	557	-	-	203	-	11	-
Cuba	557	90	-	-	-	467	-	-
Germany	2,711	1,856	1	-	4	-	783	-
Ireland	1,266	972	-	-	-	-	-	266
Italy	3,701	2,502	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mexico	2,026	1,204	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poland	2,084	1,505	5	-	1	-	19	-
Russia	1,490	1,006	-	-	4	-	9	-
Sweden	691	516	-	-	-	-	1	-
United Kingdom	2,242	1,329	-	1	-	-	6	3
Other	9,170	5,399	3	6	16	24	38	-
Not reported	6,607	3,179	1	4	5	2	8	2

Mother's place of birth	Place of birth of the person--Continued							
	Italy	Mexico	Poland	Russia	Sweden	United Kingdom	Other	Not reported
Total	1,353	938	550	412	166	1,006	4,434	3,338
United States	154	101	4	-	1	78	416	90
Puerto Rico	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-
U.S. outlying areas	1	-	-	-	-	-	4	-
Austria	7	-	2	-	-	3	24	6
Cuba	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Germany	4	-	8	4	-	11	36	4
Ireland	-	-	-	-	-	16	12	-
Italy	1,166	-	-	-	-	8	24	-
Mexico	-	822	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poland	-	-	511	5	-	5	31	-
Russia	-	3	17	392	-	11	46	1
Sweden	-	-	-	-	163	-	10	1
United Kingdom	1	3	-	-	-	815	84	-
Other	12	4	3	-	1	41	3,605	18
Not reported	8	6	5	11	-	18	138	3,219

- Represents zero or rounds to zero.

III EDUCATION AND LITERACY

About 95 percent of all persons 10 years old and over reported the ability to read and write English. Each of the origin groups approached or exceeded this proportion except the Spanish, for whom approximately four-fifths reported the ability to read and write English.

Table 12. Origin of Persons 10 Years Old and Over, by Ability to Read and Write English

(Numbers in thousands)

Origin	Total persons 10 years old and over	Able to read and write English	
		Number	Percent
Total	159,611	151,709	95.0
English	16,299	16,069	98.6
German	17,126	16,935	98.9
Irish	11,520	11,374	98.7
Italian	6,222	5,743	92.3
Polish	3,567	3,408	95.5
Russian	1,983	1,925	97.1
Spanish	6,751	5,415	80.2
Other	80,854	78,704	97.3
Not reported	15,288	12,136	79.4

About one in every five persons 25 years old and over had completed at least one year of college. That the Nation is becoming better educated is evident from the finding that while about 19 percent of the population 35 years old and over had completed some college, about 30 percent of young adults 25 to 34 years of age had this much education.

Every origin group showed improvement in the percentage of persons completing at least one year of college in the age group 25 to 34 years compared to the age group 35 years and over. Persons of Russian origin reported the highest percentage of persons completing some college at both age levels, about 70 percent for persons 25 to 34 years and about 30 percent for persons 35 years and over.

Table 13. Highest Grade of School Completed by Persons 25 Years Old and Over, by Ethnic Origin

Origin	Total (thousands)	Percent distribution by years of school completed							Median school years completed
		Total	Elementary		High school		College		
			0 to 7 years	8 years	1 to 3 years	4 years	1 to 3 years	4 years or more	
Total, 25 years old and over.	106,284	100.0	13.8	13.4	17.6	33.9	10.3	11.0	12.2
25 to 34 years old.....	23,884	100.0	4.5	4.8	17.4	43.5	14.7	15.2	12.5
English.....	2,301	100.0	4.3	4.6	15.5	41.2	16.8	17.6	12.6
German.....	2,848	100.0	1.6	4.1	14.8	47.4	14.6	17.5	12.6
Irish.....	1,670	100.0	2.6	3.7	18.8	45.1	15.9	13.9	12.6
Italian.....	902	100.0	5.3	3.3	16.3	50.4	12.7	11.9	12.5
Polish.....	503	100.0	1.3	3.0	10.6	53.8	15.1	16.2	12.7
Russian.....	209	100.0	0.7	0.7	3.7	24.7	17.7	52.5	16+
Spanish.....	1,239	100.0	19.2	10.0	23.5	32.2	9.8	5.3	11.7
Other.....	11,625	100.0	3.6	4.4	17.5	43.3	15.6	15.6	12.6
Not reported.....	2,585	100.0	6.2	7.2	20.3	43.6	10.9	11.8	12.4
35 years and over.....	82,400	100.0	16.5	15.9	17.6	31.1	9.1	9.8	12.0
English.....	9,698	100.0	11.9	13.7	17.8	31.7	11.1	13.6	12.2
German.....	9,977	100.0	10.6	22.0	16.1	34.2	8.6	8.5	12.0
Irish.....	6,960	100.0	14.3	16.3	18.8	32.9	8.4	9.3	12.0
Italian.....	3,780	100.0	23.5	17.7	20.0	27.6	5.2	5.9	10.3
Polish.....	2,266	100.0	18.5	19.0	19.2	30.9	5.2	7.2	10.9
Russian.....	1,375	100.0	10.8	12.1	11.9	35.1	11.7	18.4	12.4
Spanish.....	2,576	100.0	43.0	14.4	14.9	17.5	5.7	4.5	8.5
Other.....	37,661	100.0	16.5	14.3	17.8	31.1	9.9	10.4	12.0
Not reported.....	8,106	100.0	20.4	17.3	17.6	30.0	7.4	7.4	11.1

IV INCOME AND EMPLOYMENT

The median family income reported for the year before the survey was about $7,900. Families headed by persons of Russian origin had the highest median income, about $11,600 or about half again as high as the median for all families. At the same time, those headed by persons of Spanish origin had the lowest, with a median income of approximately $5,600 or 71 percent of the median for all families. (Data from another survey made in March 1970 by the Bureau of the Census show that the median family income of Negroes in 1969 was 64 percent of the median for all families.)

About 33 percent of the families headed by a person of Russian origin had an income of $15,000 or more compared to only about 4 percent of families headed by a person of Spanish origin.

Table 14. Family Income, by Ethnic Origin of Head

(Numbers in thousands)

Family income	Total	Origin								
		English	German	Irish	Italian	Polish	Russian	Spanish	Other[1]	Not reported
Total family heads	46,615	4,997	5,674	3,639	1,924	1,149	598	1,927	22,051	4,657
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under $1,000.....	2.1	1.6	1.5	2.3	0.9	0.9	1.3	2.6	2.5	2.2
$1,000 to $1,999..	3.7	2.7	2.5	3.3	1.7	2.3	2.1	5.5	4.4	4.0
$2,000 to $2,999..	4.7	3.3	2.8	4.9	2.4	2.7	0.7	8.8	5.4	5.6
$3,000 to $3,999..	6.3	5.7	5.1	5.6	3.4	3.7	2.7	12.1	6.8	6.5
$4,000 to $5,999..	16.1	16.1	13.9	15.0	14.9	13.4	7.7	25.7	16.1	18.4
$6,000 to $7,499..	13.8	13.5	14.2	13.4	13.3	13.4	9.5	14.9	13.5	15.7
$7,500 to $9,999..	20.1	21.5	22.5	21.8	25.8	25.2	18.4	15.4	18.2	21.4
$10,000 to $14,999	22.1	22.6	25.2	23.2	27.1	28.1	24.7	11.4	22.1	17.8
$15,000 to $24,999	8.6	9.7	9.7	8.3	8.9	8.9	19.7	3.1	8.7	6.2
$25,000 and over..	2.4	3.2	2.5	2.1	1.6	1.3	13.1	0.6	2.2	2.1
Median income.....	$7,894	$8,324	$8,607	$8,127	$8,808	$8,849	$11,554	$5,641	$7,671	$7,264

[1]Includes American Indian and "all other" not available separately.

About 4 out of 5 males 16 years of age and over were in the civilian labor force, and this proportion did not vary widely from one origin group to another. The overall unemployment rate for males was 2.8 percent, but that for males of Spanish origin was above this level, with a rate of 5.1 percent.

A greater proportion of Russian origin males and a smaller proportion of Spanish origin males were in the better-paying professional and managerial positions than was true of the total male population. On the other hand, males of Russian origin were less likely, and those of Spanish origin were more likely, to be employed as lower-paid laborers.

Table 15. Employment Status and Major Occupation Group of the Male Population 16 Years Old and Over, by Ethnic Origin

(Numbers in thousands)

Subject	Total	Origin								
		English	German	Irish	Italian	Polish	Russian	Spanish	Other	Not reported
Male, 16 years old and over.....	63,303	6,615	7,595	4,697	2,710	1,549	895	2,491	30,085	6,664
Civilian labor force.....	50,293	5,197	6,203	3,712	2,149	1,284	672	2,022	23,714	5,340
Percent in labor force.....	79.4	78.6	81.7	79.0	79.3	82.9	75.1	81.2	78.8	80.1
Percent unemployed.....	2.8	2.1	1.6	2.3	1.7	2.3	1.8	5.1	3.4	2.4
Male employed.....	48,892	5,088	6,102	3,630	2,112	1,252	656	1,919	22,915	5,202
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Prof., tech., and kindred wkrs....	14.0	16.7	14.8	14.1	13.5	14.5	27.1	7.9	14.2	10.0
Farmers and farm managers.....	3.4	4.4	6.7	3.6	0.4	1.6	0.3	0.6	2.8	4.4
Mgrs., offs., and props., exc. farm	14.2	16.9	15.4	15.5	14.9	15.2	29.3	7.4	13.2	13.9
Clerical and kindred workers.....	7.0	7.3	5.8	8.5	9.1	8.8	8.7	6.7	6.8	6.4
Sales workers.....	5.6	6.0	6.1	6.3	5.2	6.2	12.8	3.3	5.3	5.2
Craftsmen, foremen, and kind.wkrs.	20.4	19.9	21.7	20.8	22.7	24.4	9.6	18.5	19.7	22.6
Operatives and kindred workers....	20.0	17.8	18.2	17.9	20.0	19.6	9.3	28.6	20.2	23.5
Private household workers.....	0.1	0.1	-	-	-	0.1	-	-	0.1	-
Service wkrs., exc. priv. hshld...	6.5	5.0	4.7	6.0	7.5	3.0	1.8	10.5	7.7	4.9
Farm laborers and foremen.....	1.7	1.2	1.6	1.0	0.2	0.6	-	4.8	1.8	2.0
Laborers, exc. farm and mine.....	7.1	4.9	4.9	6.1	6.4	6.1	1.1	11.8	8.2	7.1

- Represents zero or rounds to zero.

Less than half of all females 16 years old and over were in the civilian labor force. The unemployment rate for these women was about 4.8 percent. Females of Spanish origin experienced greater unemployment with a rate of 7.5 percent.

Females of Russian origin were employed as professional, technical, and kindred workers to a greater extent, and those of Italian and Spanish origin to a lesser degree, than were females in the total population. Conversely, females of Russian origin were underrepresented as operatives whereas those of Italian and Spanish origin were overrepresented.

Table 16. Employment Status and Major Occupation Group of the Female Population 16 Years Old and Over, by Ethnic Origin

(Numbers in thousands)

Subject	Total	Origin								
		English	German	Irish	Italian	Polish	Russian	Spanish	Other	Not reported
Female, 16 years old and over.....	71,936	7,841	7,753	5,586	2,882	1,676	923	2,822	35,545	6,902
Civilian labor force.....	31,716	3,170	3,301	2,324	1,213	740	350	1,146	16,444	3,028
Percent in labor force.....	44.1	40.4	42.6	41.6	42.1	44.2	37.9	40.6	46.3	43.9
Percent unemployed.....	4.8	2.9	3.7	4.1	4.5	4.1	4.9	7.5	5.5	4.4
Female employed.....	30,178	3,076	3,175	2,224	1,155	710	330	1,060	15,538	2,872
Percent.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Prof., tech., and kindred wkrs....	14.4	16.6	16.6	14.9	9.7	13.1	23.0	8.6	14.5	11.9
Farmers and farm managers.....	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.2	-	-	-	-	0.2	0.2
Mgrs., offs., and props., exc. farm	4.3	6.1	4.1	6.0	4.5	3.4	10.6	1.7	3.8	4.6
Clerical and kindred workers.....	34.1	34.9	33.6	35.6	39.4	35.6	43.6	25.6	33.9	33.4
Sales workers.....	7.2	8.4	7.6	7.0	7.4	8.5	8.8	5.0	6.8	7.6
Craftsmen, foremen, and kind. wkrs.	1.1	1.3	0.9	0.9	2.2	1.1	2.1	1.1	0.9	1.1
Operatives and kindred workers....	15.3	13.4	13.0	13.1	25.3	19.2	6.7	32.8	13.5	20.5
Private household workers.....	5.8	3.9	4.5	3.6	0.9	2.1	0.9	6.4	7.8	3.5
Service wkrs., exc. priv. hshld...	15.8	13.5	15.9	16.9	10.4	15.5	3.9	17.1	16.7	15.1
Farm laborers and foremen.....	1.4	1.3	2.9	1.2	0.2	1.3	0.3	0.8	1.3	1.6
Laborers, exc. farm and mine.....	0.5	0.2	0.3	0.6	0.2	0.3	-	0.8	0.5	0.6

- Represents zero or rounds to zero.

APPENDIX

Source and Reliability of the Estimates

Source of data. The estimates are based on data obtained in November of 1969 in the Current Population Survey of the Bureau of the Census. The sample is spread over 449 areas comprising 863 counties and independent cities with coverage in each of the 50 States and the District of Columbia. Approximately 50,000 occupied households are eligible for interview each month. Of this number, 2,250 occupied units, on the average, are visited but interviews are not obtained because the occupants are not found at home after repeated calls or are unavailable for some other reason. In addition to the 50,000, there are also about 8,500 sample units in an average month which are visited but are found to be vacant or otherwise not to be interviewed.

The estimating procedure used in this survey involved the inflation of the weighted sample results to independent estimates of the civilian noninstitutional population of the United States by age, race, and sex. These independent estimates were based on statistics from the 1960 Census of Population; statistics of births, deaths, immigration, and emigration; and statistics on the strength of the Armed Forces.

Reliability of the estimates. Since the estimates are based on a sample, they may differ somewhat from figures obtained if a complete census had been taken using the same schedules, instructions, and enumerators. As in any survey work, the results are subject to errors of response and of reporting as well as being subject to sampling variability. (See further, "Notes," page 1.)

The standard error is primarily a measure of sampling variability, that is, of the variations that occur by chance because a sample rather than the whole of the population is surveyed. As calculated for this report, the standard error also partially measures the effect of response and enumeration errors but does not measure any systematic biases in the data. The chances are about 68 out of 100 that an estimate from the sample would differ from a complete census figure by less than the standard error. The chances are about 95 out of 100 that the difference would be less than twice the standard error.

The figures presented in tables A through F are approximations to the standard errors of various estimates shown in this report. In order to derive standard errors that would be applicable to a wide variety of items and could be prepared at a moderate cost, a number of approximations were required. As a result the tables of standard errors provide an indication of the order of magnitude of the standard errors rather than the precise standard error for any specific item. Tables A, B, and C contain the standard errors of estimated level for various types of items.

Table A. Standard Errors of Estimated Numbers--Income and Employment

(68 chances out of 100)

Size of estimate	Standard error	Size of estimate	Standard error
10,000.....	4,900	2,500,000.....	77,100
25,000.....	7,800	5,000,000.....	108,000
50,000.....	11,000	10,000,000....	150,000
100,000.....	15,600	25,000,000....	223,000
250,000.....	24,600	50,000,000....	278,000
500,000.....	34,800	100,000,000...	261,000
1,000,000.....	49,100		

Table B. Standard Errors of Estimated Numbers--Education

(68 chances out of 100)

Size of estimate	Standard error	Size of estimate	Standard error
10,000.....	5,500	2,500,000.....	86,400
25,000.....	8,700	5,000,000.....	121,000
50,000.....	12,300	10,000,000....	169,000
100,000.....	17,400	25,000,000....	253,000
250,000.....	27,500	50,000,000....	323,000
500,000.....	38,900	100,000,000...	337,000
1,000,000.....	55,000		

Table C. Standard Errors of Estimated Numbers--General

(68 chances out of 100)

Size of estimate	Standard error	Size of estimate	Standard error
10,000.....	6,800	2,500,000.....	106,000
25,000.....	10,700	5,000,000.....	149,000
50,000.....	15,100	10,000,000....	208,000
100,000.....	21,400	25,000,000....	316,000
250,000.....	33,800	50,000,000....	413,000
500,000.....	47,700	100,000,000...	476,000
1,000,000.....	67,400		

The reliability of an estimated percentage, computed by using sample data for both numerator and denominator depends upon both the size of the percentage and the size of the total upon which the percentage is based. Estimated percentages are

Table D. Standard Errors of Estimated Percentages--Income and Employment

(68 chances out of 100)

Estimated percentage	Base of percentage (thousands)										
	100	250	500	1,000	2,500	5,000	10,000	25,000	50,000	100,000	200,000
2 or 98.....	2.2	1.4	1.0	0.7	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.05
5 or 95.....	3.4	2.1	1.5	1.1	0.7	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1
10 or 90.....	4.7	3.0	2.1	1.5	0.9	0.7	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1
25 or 75.....	6.7	4.3	3.0	2.1	1.3	1.0	0.7	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.2
35 or 65.....	7.4	4.7	3.3	2.3	1.5	1.0	0.7	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.2
50.....	7.8	4.9	3.5	2.5	1.6	1.1	0.8	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.2

Table E. Standard Errors of Estimated Percentages--Education

(68 chances out of 100)

Estimated percentage	Base of percentage (thousands)										
	100	250	500	1,000	2,500	5,000	10,000	25,000	50,000	100,000	200,000
2 or 98.....	2.4	1.5	1.1	0.8	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.05
5 or 95.....	3.8	2.4	1.7	1.2	0.8	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1
10 or 90.....	5.2	3.3	2.3	1.7	1.0	0.7	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1
25 or 75.....	7.5	4.8	3.4	2.4	1.5	1.1	0.8	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.2
35 or 65.....	8.3	5.3	3.7	2.6	1.7	1.2	0.8	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.3
50.....	8.7	5.5	3.9	2.8	1.7	1.2	0.9	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.3

Table F. Standard Errors of Estimated Percentages--General

(68 chances out of 100)

Estimated percentage	Base of percentage (thousands)										
	100	250	500	1,000	2,500	5,000	10,000	25,000	50,000	100,000	200,000
2 or 98.....	3.0	1.9	1.3	0.9	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
5 or 95.....	4.7	2.9	2.1	1.5	0.9	0.7	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1
10 or 90.....	6.4	4.1	2.9	2.0	1.3	0.9	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.1
25 or 75.....	9.3	5.9	4.1	2.9	1.9	1.3	0.9	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.2
35 or 65.....	10.2	6.4	4.6	3.2	2.0	1.4	1.0	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.2
50.....	10.7	6.8	4.8	3.4	2.1	1.5	1.1	0.7	0.5	0.3	0.2

relatively more reliable than the corresponding estimates of the numerators of the percentages, particularly if the percentages are 50 percent or more. Tables D, E, and F contain the standard errors of estimated percentages.

Illustration of the use of table of standard errors. Table 9 of this report shows that 1,006,000 people were born in the United Kingdom. Table C shows the standard error on an estimate of this size to be approximately 67,600. The chances are 68 out of 100 that the estimate would have been a figure differing from a complete census by less than 67,600. The chances are 95 out of 100 that the estimate would have been a figure differing from a complete census by less than 135,200 (twice the standard error).

Of these 1,006,000, 560,000, or 55.7 percent are women. Table F shows the standard error of 55.7 percent on a base of 1,006,000 to be approximately 3.3 percent. Consequently, chances are 68 out of 100 that the estimated 55.7 percent would be within 3.3 percentage points of a complete census figure, and chances are 95 out of 100 that the estimate would be within 6.6 percentage points of a census figure; i.e., this 95 percent confidence interval would be from 49.1 to 62.3 percent.

Current Population Survey, November 1969 Questionnaire (part)

34. In what State *(or foreign country)* was ... born?

- This State
- Different State
- Puerto Rico
- Other U.S. Terr.
- Austria
- Cuba
- Germany
- Ireland
- Italy
- Mexico
- Poland
- Russia
- Sweden
- United Kingdom
- Other *(Specify)*
- Don't Know

35. In what State *(or foreign country)* was ... 's father born?

- This State
- Different State
- Puerto Rico
- Other U.S. Terr.
- Austria
- Cuba
- Germany
- Ireland
- Italy
- Mexico
- Poland
- Russia
- Sweden
- United Kingdom
- Other *(Specify)*
- Don't Know

36. In what State *(or foreign country)* was ... 's mother born?

- This State
- Different State
- Puerto Rico
- Other U.S. Terr.
- Austria
- Cuba
- Germany
- Ireland
- Italy
- Mexico
- Poland
- Russia
- Sweden
- United Kingdom
- Other *(Specify)*
- Don't Know

NOW I HAVE A FEW QUESTIONS ABOUT. . . 'S ORIGIN OR DESCENT. FIRST, I'LL ASK ABOUT SPANISH DESCENT–

37. Is ... 's origin or descent _____ ?

(Read list and fill one circle only)

- Mexican
- Puerto Rican
- Cuban
- Central or South American
- Other Spanish

(Skip to 39)

- None of these *(Ask 38)*

38. What is ... 's origin or descent?

- German
- Irish
- Italian
- Polish
- Russian
- English
- Negro
- American Indian
- Other *(Specify)*
- Don't Know

NEXT, I HAVE SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT LANGUAGES–

39. What language is now usually spoken in ... 's home?

- French
- German
- Italian
- Polish
- Spanish
- Yiddish
- English
- Other *(Specify)*

40. Can . . . read and write that language?

- Yes
- No

(Fill Check Item A)

CHECK ITEM A

Entry in 39 is:

- English *(Skip to 42)*
- Any other entry *(Ask 41)*

41. Can ... read and write English?

- Yes
- No

42. What language, other than English, was spoken in ... 's home when he was a child?

- French
- German
- Italian
- Polish
- Spanish
- Yiddish
- Other *(Specify)*
- None *(English only – skip to 45)*

CHECK ITEM B

Entries in 39 and 42 are:

- Same *(Skip to 45)*
- Different *(Ask 43)*

43. Can ... read and write that language now?

- Yes *(Skip to 45)*
- No *(Ask 44)*

44. Can ... speak or understand that language now?

- Yes
- No

(Fill 45)